

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed 14 July 2005, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 15-27. The Applicants also thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 5-6 and 8-10 are drawn to allowable subject matter, but are based on a rejected base independent claim, Claim 1. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include all limitations present in original Claim 5, including the limitations of Claim 3 (from which Claim 5 depended).

As amended herein, Claim 1 now includes all of the subject matter of original Claim 5, drafted as an independent claim. Because original Claim 5 was indicated by the Examiner to be drawn to non-rejected subject matter, the Applicants submit that Claim 1 is now allowable.

Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled, all of their limitations now being present in amended Claim 1. The dependencies of Claims 4 and 6-10 have been amended to reflect a dependence from amended Claim 1.

With these amendments, Claims 1-2, 4, 6-11, and 15-27 are now pending in this case. As noted above, Claim 1 and its dependent claims are now drawn to non-rejected subject matter, and Claims 15-27 remain in the condition of allowance that the Examiner indicated in the Office Action of 9 September 2005.

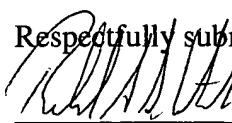
The Applicants therefore submit that all pending claims in this case are in a condition for immediate allowance, and request that the Examiner pass this case to allowance.

Application No. 10/784,099
Response dated 8 November 2005
Reply to Office Action of 9 September 2005

140318-1

If any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's counsel at the number provided below so that a resolution can be most effectively reached.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard A. DeCristofaro

Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 51,601

Telephone: (518) 387-5832

Schenectady, New York

8 Nov 2005
Date